

PATENT  
45D-1750 (81841.0041)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

R. J. Obremski, et al.

Serial No: 09/063,978

Filed: April 21, 1998

For: DETECTION OF VERY LOW  
QUANTITIES OF ANALYTE  
BOUND TO A SOLID PHASE

Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: Hines, Jana A.

I hereby certify that this correspondence  
is being transmitted via facsimile to  
(703) 308-4242; Commissioner for  
Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on

November 6, 2002

Date of Deposit

Nilka Mickey

Name

Signature

11/6/02

Date

AMENDMENT

Box Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 7, 2002, please amend the  
above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the text of claims 1, 23, and 26 with the following text:

1. (Twice Amended) A binding assay for sensing analyte mass in a  
liquid sample, comprising:

a) immobilizing an array on a substrate, wherein the array comprises a  
plurality of microscopic sorbent zones, wherein a microscopic sorbent zone  
comprises a multi-layer matrix of an analyte binding partner;

b) contacting a defined volume of sample believed to contain an analyte  
with at least one microscopic sorbent zone, the analyte binding partner in the  
microscopic sorbent zone being present in excess relative to the analyte, so that any  
analyte present in the defined volume is substantially depleted from the sample and  
concentrated on the microscopic sorbent zone to form an analyte capture complex  
with the analyte binding partner;